



State of Idaho

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND WELFARE

Division of Medicaid

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### INFORMATIONAL LETTER #2001-6

**DATE:** July 30, 2001

**TO:** ALL IDAHO:  
HOSPITALS  
NURSING FACILITIES  
RESIDENTIAL AND ASSISTED LIVING FACILITIES  
AMBULATORY SURGERY CENTERS  
ICF/MRS

**FROM:** DEBBY RANSOM, R.N., R.H.I.T., Chief  
Bureau of Facility Standards

**SUBJECT:** FIRE SPRINKLER HEAD RECALL

On July 20, 2001, Central Sprinkler Company, in conjunction with the Consumer Product Safety Commission, announced a voluntary program for replacement of over 35 million fire sprinkler heads with O-ring seals.

Included in the recall are wet and dry sprinklers with O-ring seals manufactured by Central, about 101,000 "On-Off" sprinklers used in "wet" systems and sold by Gem Sprinkler Co., and another 66,000 "dry" sprinklers manufactured by Star Sprinkler, Inc.

Whereas sprinklers manufactured by Central Sprinkler Company are/have been used extensively in sprinkler systems installed in health/residential care facilities, we are requesting you inspect your systems to determine whether you have heads listed under the recall. Since there are several model numbers included in the recall, we **STRONGLY** recommend you contact a licensed sprinkler contractor for assistance in the inspection.

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Enclosed is a copy of the letter released by Central Sprinkler Company which provides additional information regarding the recall including an 800 number and a web site [www.SprinklerReplacement.com](http://www.SprinklerReplacement.com). The web site contains detailed information including identification of the model number(s), claim submittal, and questions and answers.

In order to track if and/or where recalled heads are presently in use in Idaho's facilities and to monitor their replacement, please complete the enclosed questionnaire once your system(s) have been inspected.

Should you have any specific questions regarding the recall, please contact Central Sprinkler Company. The recalled heads are widely used in other occupancies as well. Your local fire department may also be able to provide additional information. You may also contact Roger Gehrke, Supervisor of the Facility Fire Safety & Construction Section, at (208) 334-6626 as he will be coordinating the survey data on where recalled heads are in use in Idaho's facilities.

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DEBBY RANSOM, R.N., R.H.I.T., Chief  
Bureau of Facility Standards

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Enclosures

cc: Idaho Hospital Association  
Idaho Health Care Association  
Idaho Assisted Living Association  
Idaho Association of Community Options and Resources